

TOWN OF SCITUATE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Report and Recommendations
For
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

NOVEMBER 4, 2013

7:00 P.M.

HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

This Report is furnished for your information.
Please bring it to all sessions of Special Town Meeting.

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REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To The Voters of Scituate:

In accordance with the Town of Scituate Bylaws, the Advisory Committee submits its Report to the voters. This report contains the complete warrant for the Special Town Meeting, which will convene on November 4, 2013.

Our forum is an Open Town Meeting, which has been described as the purest form of democracy. All registered voters are entitled to attend, ask questions, express their opinions, and vote on all matters.

This evening, the Board of Selectmen, and other town boards will propose various expenditures, funding transfers, zoning changes, and borrowing for capital improvements. In total, the 2013 Special Town Meeting places before the voters a total of **twelve (12)** articles for your consideration with one being withdrawn after the warrant was posted.

We, the Advisory Committee, recommend on each; but only you will decide which articles pass, and which ones do not.

The Advisory Committee urges you to become an active meeting member. Voice your opinion and seek any clarification necessary to make an informed vote on these articles.

Respectfully submitted,

The Scituate Advisory Committee

Maura Curran, Chairwoman
Frank Judge, Vice Chairman
Anthony Antonello
Geoffrey Burns
Karen Connolly
James Gilmore
Bob Nelson
Mark Sandham
Mike Westort

TOWN MEETING RULES AND DEFINITIONS

1. The conduct of Scituate's Town Meeting is bound by state law, the Town's Charter and By-laws, local tradition and the publication entitled, "Town Meeting Time".
2. The Moderator presides over the Town Meeting, decides all questions of order and procedure, and announces the results of all votes. The results of all votes when announced by the Moderator shall be final except on a voice vote that may be questioned by seven (7) voters standing immediately after the announced results of a vote. In such a case, a teller-counted vote shall be taken without debate.
3. Non-voters will be seated in a special section unless permission is granted by the Town Meeting to be seated elsewhere. Non-voters may be allowed to address the Town Meeting with permission of the Moderator unless a majority of voters choose to deny such a privilege.
4. Articles in the Warrant give notice of the issues subject to discussion at a Town Meeting and establish the parameters of matters that can be debated and acted on. Amendments, motions and/or debate determined by the Moderator, with the advice of Town Counsel, to be "beyond the scope" of the articles may not be permitted.
5. In order for the Town Meeting to act on or discuss an article, a motion must be made. The Moderator will call for a motion on each article and, if no motion is made after the second call, the Moderator will "pass over" the article and move on to the next Article. In order to bring back a "passed over" article for a motion and discussion, there must be an approved "motion for reconsideration".
6. Articles may be postponed by a majority vote or advanced by a 2/3 vote.
7. To address the Town Meeting, a speaker must be recognized by the Moderator and once recognized, a speaker should first give his or her name and address for the record. No speaker will be recognized while another person is speaking except to raise "a point of order," which is used to question a ruling of the Moderator or the conduct of Town Meeting. Points of order are not to address the subject matter being discussed.
8. All matters shall be decided by a majority vote unless a 2/3 or greater vote is required. If more than a majority vote is required, the Moderator shall announce the required percentage for passage before calling the vote.
9. The Moderator may set time limits on all presentations and may terminate debate on a motion when deemed appropriate. Debate on a motion may also be terminated by a voter "moving the question" which, if accepted by the Moderator as not being premature, shall be voted on without discussion or debate. A motion to "move the question" requires a 2/3 vote for passage.

10. Only two (2) amendments to a motion may be on the floor at any particular time. Amendments over six (6) words must be submitted to the Moderator in writing and, if over fifty (50) words, sufficient copies must be available to those attending at the entrance of the hall before the start of that particular session.

11. Generally, amendments shall be voted on in the order made and prior to the vote on the motion to be amended. However, amendments relating to amounts to be appropriated shall be voted on in a descending order until an amount gains approval.

12. A motion may be reconsidered once for a compelling reason by a 2/3 vote. No further reconsideration will be permitted. There may be no reconsideration of a vote at a subsequent session of the Town Meeting.

13. A resolution is a non-debatable, non-binding motion on any matter calling for a consensus of the Town Meeting. A resolution must be related to the content of an article. If a resolution is over ten (10) words, it must be submitted to the Moderator in writing and, if over fifty (50) words, sufficient copies must be available at the entrance of the hall for those attending.

14. When justice or order requires, the Moderator may make exceptions to these rules, in his or her discretion, as is deemed appropriate under the circumstances.

MUNICIPAL FINANCE TERMS

APPROPRIATION: An authorization by the Town Meeting to make obligations and payments from the treasury for a specific purpose.

ASSESSED VALUATION: A valuation set upon real or personal property by the Board of Assessors as a basis for levying taxes.

BETTERMENT: A betterment assessment is a charge for the cost of public improvements, which benefit a limited area, against real estate situated in that area.

BOND: A loan, typically over a year in maturity.

BOND AUTHORIZATION: The amount of money the Town Meeting approves for borrowing for a specific purpose.

BOND ISSUE: Generally, the sale of a certain number of bonds/notes at one time by a governmental unit.

CAPITAL BUDGET: A plan of proposed capital outlays and the means of financing them for the current fiscal year.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: Expenditure for the purchase of property or equipment and for the construction or renovation of a facility and infrastructure.

CHERRY SHEET: A form showing all state and county charges and reimbursements to the town as certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

DEBT SERVICE: Payment of interest and repayment of principal to holders of the town's debt instruments.

ENTERPRISE FUND: Financing of services where all or most of the costs are paid for by users.

ENTERPRISE RETAINED EARNINGS: If during a fiscal year an Enterprise Fund produces a surplus, such surplus shall be kept in a separate account called "retained earnings." The Department of Revenue then certifies that surplus as an available fund that can be used for:

1. Operating costs to offset the need to increase user charges,
2. to fund capital improvements
3. to fund Enterprise Fund revenue deficits.

FISCAL YEAR: A 12-month period, commencing on July 1, to which the annual budget applies. (Abbreviated as “FY”)

FREE CASH: The excess of assets over liabilities, minus uncollected taxes of prior years also referred to as “available cash.” The amount is certified annually by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. Free Cash may be appropriated by vote of a Town Meeting.

GENERAL FUND: The major town-owned fund which is created with town receipts and which is charged with expenditures payable from such revenues.

GRANT: A contribution of assets by one governmental unit or other organization to another. Typically, these contributions are made to local governments from the state and federal government. Grants are usually made for specific purposes.

LEVY LIMIT: The amount of dollars a Town can raise by taxation under Proposition 2½.

LINE ITEM BUDGET: A format of budgeting, which organizes costs by type of expenditure - such as expenses, equipment and salaries.

OVERLAY: The overlay is the amount raised by the Assessors to be used for potential abatement of property taxes. The Overlay Surplus is the portion of each year’s overlay account no longer required to cover property tax abatements.

PROPERTY TAX LEVY: The amount produced by multiplying the assessed valuation of property by the tax rate. The tax rate is expressed “per thousand dollars” of assessed valuation.

RESERVE FUND: Money set aside by Town Meeting to be allocated by the Advisory Committee for extraordinary and unforeseen expenditures.

REVOLVING FUND (Ch. 44, Sec 53E ½): A Town may annually authorize the use of a revolving fund by separately accounting for the receipts received from a particular service or program and may expend from the revolving fund to provide such service or program without appropriation.

STABILIZATION FUND: A special account, which is invested until used and can only be utilized by Town Meeting appropriation.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING NOVEMBER 4, 2013

ARTICLE 1. Reports of Boards and Committees

To see if the Town will vote to hear or act upon any reports from town officers or committees, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: This article is procedural in nature providing an official opportunity for Scituate Town Boards to provide an oral report to Town Meeting participants as desired.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee recommends approval of this article.

Advisory Committee Vote: Unanimous (9-0) in support of this article

ARTICLE 2. Fiscal Year 2013 Unpaid Bills

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$2,143.20, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of paying Fiscal Year 2013 unpaid bills, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: The purpose of this article is to pay unpaid bills from fiscal year 2013 that ended June 30, 2013. A few bills arrive following the closing of a fiscal year. The \$2,143.20 represents the following open invoices for the following departments; **Town Hall** -Verizon: \$654.48, **Highway** -Hingham Lumber: \$73.52, **Public Grounds** - Coyne Textile: \$50.56, **Highway** -Kingstown Corporation: \$564.12, and **Library** -Tremco Weather Spec: \$800.00.

The shortfalls will be funded from a transfer of funds in each department's FY 2014 line item budget.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee recommends approval of this article.

Advisory Committee Vote: Unanimous (9-0) in support of this article

ARTICLE 3. Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Reconciliations

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$73,080.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of balancing the Fiscal Year 2014 Operating Budget pursuant to Article 4 of the April 9, 2013 Annual Town Meeting warrant, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: Since the approval of Article 4 at our Annual Town Meeting, additional funds are needed to cover unforeseen costs reviewed during the FY 14 budgetary process. The funds will be transferred from the accounts listed below "From" into the "To" budget lines to ensure adequate funds are available. The Veterans Services appropriation is necessary to cover the costs as a result of an appeal for benefits that were denied but still may be awarded by the Commonwealth's Department of Veterans Services. If the Town does not prevail, we are responsible to pay back benefit payments for the period challenged. A determination of the appeal is still pending. If the Town prevails, these funds will be available for further appropriation next April. If the Town does not prevail, the \$27,000.00 must be paid in full. The Commonwealth will reimburse the Town 75% of this total. The amount will be transferred from our Free Cash balance.

\$16,080.00 will be transferred from the PEG Access Grant into the General Fund to pay for increased hours of work for a cable assistant from 19 to 30 hours/week (\$10,080.00) and for additional programming hours for part-timers who broadcast public meetings (\$6,000.00) through June 30, 2014.

\$30,000.00 will be transferred from the accounts below to cover the need for an interim accounting service needed during our search to fill the Town Accountant position left vacant on May 4, 2013. A new Finance Director/Town Accountant was approved on September 17, 2013 and has begun employment. The funds being transferred from the COA and Highway Departments are surplus due to personnel vacancies.

Department	From	To	Amount
Veterans Services	Free Cash	Subsistence Support	\$27,000.00
Cable Studio	PEG Access Account	Cable Studio Account	\$16,080.00
Accounting	COA Personal Serv. (\$19,507.00)		
	Highway Personal Serv. (\$10,493.00)	Purchase of Services	\$30,000.00

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee recommends approval of this article.

Advisory Committee Vote: Unanimous (9-0) in support of this article.

ARTICLE 4. 2012-2013 Storm Mitigation and Remediation Costs

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$965,501.00, or a greater or lesser sum, into the Stabilization Fund to replace amounts transferred to pay Fiscal Year 2013 bills associated with Hurricane Sandy, November Nor'easter, Storm Nemo and Storm Saturn, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: At the 2013 annual town meeting in April, voters approved a transfer in the amount of \$955,500.00 from the Stabilization Fund to cover the cost of storm response and remediation for four powerful ocean storms that impacted the town of Scituate in late 2012 and 2013. Scituate was severely impacted starting with Hurricane Sandy in October 2012 and another strong Nor'easter in November, followed by two major winter storms that brought blizzard conditions, widespread power outages, and coastal flooding. The storms required a significant and costly response from town officials and emergency response personnel. \$955,500.00 was transferred from the town's Stabilization Fund during April's Annual Town Meeting to pay for the storms. Only a portion of that amount was spent. The total amount spent was approximately \$539,000.00 leaving a surplus unexpended balance of \$416,988.58, which will be transferred back into the town's Stabilization Fund. In addition to the recommended transfer of the \$416,988.58 unspent balance back to the Stabilization fund, approval of this article would also transfer an amount equal to the actual expenditures (\$539,000.00) from Free Cash to Stabilization, in order to fully replenish the town's Stabilization Fund.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee recommends approval of this article.

Advisory Committee Vote: Unanimous (9-0) vote in support of this article.

ARTICLE 5. Establishment of Revolving Fund – Scituate Harbor Community Building

To see if Town will vote to authorize the establishment of a Scituate Harbor Community Center Revolving Fund, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, which shall be kept separate and apart from other monies by the Treasurer, and which shall be deposited revenues received that may be spent only from those sources identified below under "Source of Funds" without further appropriation during Fiscal Year 2013 and as identified below under "Use of Funds", and shall be expended under the direction of those so indicated. Said annual amount expended from such revolving account shall not exceed the amount indicated below under FY 14 limit or take any other action relative thereto.

Source of Funds	Use of Funds	Expended Under	FY 14 Limit
Harbor Community Center Building	Operations & Maintenance Maintenance	Facilities Director	\$10,000.00

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: This Article has been withdrawn.

ARTICLE 6. Golf Course Equipment Purchases

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Retained Earnings in the Golf Enterprise Fund, the sum of \$28,000.00, or a greater or less sum, for the purpose of scheduled replacement of golf machinery and equipment, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: As noted here in April, capital purchases of the golf course have been delayed in recent years as revenues were tight and retained earnings were limited. A long overdue mower was purchased at the beginning of this year's season. However, more equipment is in need of replacement especially after being used another season. Due to limited financial resources, the Town is behind on our scheduled replacement of equipment and is responsible for these items under the current maintenance contract. This article would provide funds through Golf Retained Earnings to purchase a Tri-Plex mower. The Golf Retained Earnings balance as of July 1, 2013 is \$31,408.00.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee recommends approval of this article.

Advisory Committee Vote: Unanimous (9-0) in support of this article.

ARTICLE 7. Town Pier Rehabilitation Project

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Retained Earnings in the Waterways Enterprise Fund the sum of \$73,076.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of paying increased costs for rehabilitation of the Town Pier contingent upon such funds being used as part of the Town's share of a grant received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Seaport Advisory Council, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: In accordance with the Town of Scituate's Master Plan and Waterways Management Plan, the Harbormaster has submitted a plan and request to rehabilitate the commercial fish pier. The original cost of the project, based on a 2010 quote, was \$407,000.00. In April 2012, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Seaport Advisory Council awarded the Town of Scituate a grant of \$325,000.00 to pay for 80% of the project and Special Town Meeting 2012 appropriated \$88,750.00 for the balance needed. In August of 2013, the project was re-evaluated to assess the current costs, now estimated at \$771,631.00. The Harbormaster has re-submitted a request to the Seaport Advisory Council to cover 80% of this new total cost, valued at \$292,305.00. The \$73,076.00 above is the 20% balance requested to cover the full 20% share (\$161,826.00) of the total project. Increases in the costs of the project reflect changes in the pier project since 2010 due to additional wear, increased costs, and the need to improve the surface drainage, a new Bituminous and cement concrete surface, and the addition of sacrificial anodes to protect the pier from corrosion. These two items were not a part of the initial quote supplied from the 2010 engineering firm and total an additional \$226,00.00 in repairs. A ruling from the Seaport Advisory Council is pending and due in November 2013. Should the new cost estimates not be 80% funded by the Council, the project will proceed and as much work will be completed as the \$407,000.00 will allow. The \$73,076.00 will be transferred from Waterways Retained Earnings, which has a certified balance of \$830,210.00.

Recommendation: The Advisory Board recommends approval of this article.

Advisory Committee Vote: Unanimous (7-0) in support of this article.

ARTICLE 8. Fire Apparatus Acquisition

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$600,000.00, or a greater or lesser sum, and to transfer from the Capital Stabilization Fund, the sum of \$375,000.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of fully funding the acquisition of fire apparatus for the Scituate Fire Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: This appropriation will fully fund the acquisition of a new fire vehicle to replace the 27-year old ladder truck. The replacement of the ladder truck has been requested by the Fire Department and is a part of Scituate's 5-year Capital Plan. At the April 2013 annual meeting, \$375,000.00 was appropriated to the Capital Stabilization Fund in preparation of the cost of this new acquisition, which is estimated to cost approximately \$975,000.00 fully loaded. The \$600,000.00 will be financed through borrowing and Free Cash and will be added to the \$375,000.00 from the Capital Stabilization fund to purchase the vehicle. At this time, only the funding is being requested due to the 6-10 month time frame it takes from the date of order to delivery for such vehicles. A subcommittee comprised of firefighters and other town representatives have met and continue to evaluate the best replacement option for our town. A decision regarding the type of vehicle to be purchased is pending.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the article.

Advisory Committee Vote: Unanimous (9-0) vote in support of this article.

ARTICLE 9. Fiscal Year 2015 Plymouth County Retirement Pension Costs

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$225,000.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of offsetting and prepaying Fiscal Year 2015 costs for increased pension assessments from the Plymouth County Retirement Board, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: As noted in the FY'13 Budget Message (Dec 30, 2011) and FY'14 Budget Messages (Jan 4, 2013), our FY 15 retirement assessment for town and school employees was forecast to rise significantly (as much as 26%). The major reason for this increase was changes in the actuarial forecast that would incorporate mortality rates into the assessment. The potential financial impact was a \$923,000.00+ increase, which is a significant rate increase over prior years.

After significant discussion and lobbying with the Plymouth County Retirement Board (PCRB) about the impact such an increase would have on municipal budgets, the PCRB Commissioners voted to extend the *funding schedule* for our unfunded liability from 2030 to 2034. As a result, this extension helped to reduce the increase to 10.5%, or \$361,642.00 over the current FY 14 assessment of \$3,444,211.00. Unfortunately, each year after FY15, in addition to the normal annual increases in the pension assessment, an 8% *premium* will be added to the annual assessment.

(Article 9 comments continued)

At our April 2013 Annual Town Meeting, we allocated \$75,000.00 to the Stabilization Fund to offset this anticipated rate increase. It's recommended that this \$75,000.00 currently in Stabilization remain there, and we allocate \$225,000.00 of Free Cash to minimize the impact on the FY15 operational budget.

To help offset these increases, we are looking to prepay funds toward the FY'15 assessment. At the time this report went into production, we were awaiting confirmation and details from the PCRB on how the pre-payment arrangement would be administered.

Recommendation: At the time Advisory Committee report was sent to print, the Town was still awaiting confirmation from the Plymouth County Retirement Board regarding whether or not the prepayment could be applied to FY15. The Advisory Board vote will be rendered orally on town meeting floor.

Advisory Committee Vote: No Vote was taken at the time of print.

ARTICLE 10. Recession of Authorized Unissued Debt

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the balance of the loans authorized and un-issued pursuant to the following articles and town meeting approvals:

Item	Original Amount	ATM/STM Date(s)	Balance Unissued
Musquashicut Sewer Project	\$ 6,400,000	04/13/2009 Art. 4C	\$400,000.00
Wampatuck School Repairs	\$2,330,000	05/17/2010 Art. 2	\$775,518.00

or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: The purpose of this article is to remove \$1,175,518.00 in authorized but unused debt. These balances exist because the cost to complete the two completed projects mentioned above was less than the amount authorized. This exercise is a sound accounting practice and provides an opportunity to demonstrate to Town Meeting and taxpayers a snapshot of where we stand with respect to borrowing authorizations.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee recommends approval of this article.

Advisory Committee Vote: Unanimous (9-0) vote in support of this article.

ARTICLE 11. Water Pipe Improvement and Replacement Project

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$22,000,000.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for replacement of water pipe and necessary appurtenances and engineering throughout Town, and to meet said appropriation, authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow said sum in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: Over the past five years the Water Department has replaced 6.3 miles of old water pipes at a cost of \$5,640,000.00 financed through borrowing and paid for by the Scituate Water Retained Earnings account funded from our water rates. There are 24.3 remaining miles of old pipes that need to be evaluated and replaced. At the current rate of 1-1½ miles per year, as addressed in our Capital Plan, the eradication of brown water would take too long and is a burden upon many residents as a result. In response to residents, The Board of Selectmen, the Water Resources Committee, the Water Department and the DPW have agreed to accelerate the replacement process. There are no federal or state grants available to fund water pipe replacement. An engineering contract has been awarded to Weston and Sampson to develop a phased approach to the work, which will repair approximately 4-6 miles of pipe per year. The estimated cost of the multi-year project is \$22,000,000.00. This article authorizes the Town to borrow, as needed, a sum up to that amount. It is the Town's intention to only borrow the funds necessary to complete each phase in that given fiscal year as outlined by the engineering firm. The complete project plan is due in January 2014. The funds are being requested at this time to ensure monies are in place to begin the work as soon as spring will allow.

Recommendation: The Advisory Board vote was pending at the time this report went to print and will be rendered orally on town meeting floor.

Advisory Committee Vote: No Vote was taken at the time of print.

ARTICLE 12. Scituate Library Renovation and Expansion Grant Project

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of twelve million (\$12,000,000.00), to design, renovate, expand and furnish the public library and to meet such appropriation by authorizing the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow up to \$12,000,000.00 under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, section 7(3) or any other enabling authority; said appropriation is subject to the affirmative vote of the Town to exempt the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by M.G.L. 59 Section 21C, or Proposition 2 ½, so called, and further that the Selectmen and Board of Library Trustees are authorized to apply for grants, gifts, or donations for the purposes of this vote from federal, state, or private sources, and the said Selectmen and the Board of Library Trustees were hereby authorized to accept such grants, gifts or donations on behalf of the Town and that the amount of such grants, gifts, or donations received by the Town shall reduce the amount to be borrowed by the Town to the extent the grants, gifts and donations combined together with the borrowing authorization exceeds, \$12,000,000.00 or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Board of Selectmen

Comments: The Scituate Town Library was built in 1978 and is one of the best-used facilities in Town with 155,000 visits in FY2012, a 63% increase since 2002. Circulation of materials has increased 36% over the same period and program attendance has increased by 460%. At the same time, the building is aging and in need of major repairs which were identified by a conditions report in 2007. The repairs include a new roof, fire prevention and control system, stairways, elevator, and bathrooms that are not compliant with Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, new windows, an inadequate parking lot, and installation of ductwork in the basement space. These repairs and improvements are estimated to cost nearly \$3,000,000.

In 2010, Town Meeting approved \$45,000 for a feasibility study required by the Massachusetts Library Building Grant Program as the first step in applying for a grant to help improve the Library. Since its inception in 1987, the MLB Grant program has assisted nearly 200 communities in building new libraries or renovating and expanding existing libraries.

After an affirmative vote to approve schematic drawings for the library project at the Annual Town Meeting in 2011, Scituate was placed on the MLB grant waiting list and was subsequently awarded a \$5,000,000 grant contingent on local funding in October 2012.

The expanded, improved library will address all of the deficiencies identified in the 2007 conditions report and will increase useable space by 40%, expand the Children's Area, provide a separate area for teens, improve technology throughout the library, expand computer access and add a technology training room, add public meeting rooms, quiet study rooms, and an expanded common area.

The total cost of the project is \$12,000,000, which will be reduced to \$7,000,000 by the \$5,000,000 state grant. In addition, The Town has been advised that the Library Foundation has raised more than \$600,000 to date and will continue if the project is approved at Special Town Meeting and a special election to follow on December 14, 2013. The private funds will further reduce the cost of the project to the taxpayer.

For a home assessed at \$476,000 (the average assessment), the cost of the project is estimated to be \$46 per year for twenty years.

The Advisory Committee recognizes that there are many worthy and important projects coming before the Town in the future that will require a substantial investment by the taxpayers. If it were not for the \$5,000,000 grant and the private fundraising campaign, the library's needs would have to be met by the annual Capital Plan financed solely by the taxpayers of Scituate. If the project fails to win the support of Special Town Meeting and the voters in December, the grant will be returned to the Commonwealth.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee recommends approval of this article.

Advisory Committee Vote: Unanimous (9-0) vote in support of this article.

ARTICLE 13. **Extension of Village Overlay Zoning District (BY PETITION)**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Map by amending the Zoning District shown as the Village Business Overlay Zoning District to include the additional parcels shown on the plan entitled “Exhibit 1” prepared by CHA dates August 23, 2013, and identified on the Town of Scituate’s Assessor’s Maps as:

Parcel ID: 53-5-32-0-R
Parcel ID: 53-5-32-A-R
Parcel ID: 53-5-32-B-R
Parcel ID: 53-3-B-0-R
Parcel ID: 53-3-6-0-R
Parcel ID: 53-3-10-F-R
Parcel ID: 53-3-9-0-R
Parcel ID: 53-3-4-0-R,

or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by: Petitioners

Comments: The Village Business Overlay District allows mixed-use development (commercial & residential) with a residential density of 16 units/acre. The article would add the Dunkin Donuts, Herring Brook Mall, the Drew property, the Rousseau property, South Shore Auto Parts and the Driftway Medical Building to that district. These properties are divided by the railroad right-of-way that is owned by the Town, but otherwise are contiguous with each other and the existing Village Business Overlay District in Greenbush. Additional tax revenues are anticipated as a result of the change in this zoning due to an increased residential and commercial assessment. It was reported that abutters to the properties in question approve of the request and that any new construction would follow the normal course of permitting procedures required by the Scituate Planning Board.

Recommendation: The Advisory Committee is awaiting a ruling by the Scituate Planning Board. An oral report during town meeting will be provided.

Advisory Committee Vote: No Vote was taken at the time of print.

Town of Scituate Board of Selectmen
APPLICATION FOR COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, BOARD
AND COUNCIL APPOINTMENT

Thank you for your interest in serving the Town of Scituate.

Scituate's excellence as a community is due in large part to citizen participation in government and community affairs. The purpose of this application is to register the names, interests and qualifications of Scituate registered voters willing to volunteer to serve their community. Residents who are interested in participating in Town government are urged to fill out and submit this form to the address below. You may also access the application on the Town website using this link:

<http://www.town.scituate.ma.us/selectmen/applications/board-committee-application2011.pdf>

Residents serve as volunteers on a wide variety of Town boards, committees, commissions and councils listed on the next page. Citizens are appointed to these organizations by the Board of Selectmen or other appointing authority as vacancies occur. We encourage you to register by completing this form, indicating your occupation, background, areas of interest and organizations that interest you. General applications will be kept on file for consideration/notification when an opening occurs.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Home _____ Cell: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Occupation: _____

Background and Qualifications:

Signature of Applicant: _____

Please submit this form to:

Board of Selectmen, Town of Scituate
600 Chief Justice Cushing Highway
Scituate MA 02066
Email: kdonovan@town.scituate.ma.us
Fax: 781-545-8704

Land Use and Conservation:

- () Affordable Housing Trust
- () Beautification Committee
- () Community Preservation Act Committee
- () Conservation Commission
- () North River Commission
- () Renewable Energy Committee
- () Residential Development Committee
- () Water Resources Committee
- () Waterways Commission
- () Zoning Board of Appeals

Cable Television:

- () Cable Television Advisory Committee

Recreational Activities:

- () Recreation Commission

Government:

- () Animal Control Board
- () Archives
- () Board of Health
- () By-law Review Committee
- () Capital Planning Committee
- () Citizen's Representative to the Scholarship Committee
- () Commission on Disabilities
- () Council on Aging
- () Economic Development Committee
- () Fence Viewer
- () Historic Commission
- () Metropolitan Area Planning Council Representative
- () Public Building Commission
- () Scituate Cultural Council
- () South Shore Coalition Representative
- () South Shore Regional School Representative
- () Surveyor of Lumber/Measurer of Wood and Bark
- () Traffic Rules and Regulations Committee

Finance:

- () Advisory Committee *
- () Capital Planning Committee *

* Appointed by Town Moderator